

EXDIS

Case Number: 200102877

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RELEASED IN PART  
B1, 1.5(B), 1.5(D)

PTQ0513

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ACTION SS-00

INFO LOG-00 SAS-00 /000W  
-----92F836 171913Z /38

O 171910Z OCT 00  
FM AMEMBASSY LIMA  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6919

SECTION 01 OF 02 LIMA 006179

EXDIS DECAPTIONED

E.O. 12958: DECL: 10/17/10  
TAGS: PGOV, PREL, OAS, PE  
SUBJECT: PRESIDENT FUJIMORI ON STATUS OF OAS DIALOGUE

B1

1. (U) CLASSIFIED BY AMBASSADOR JOHN R. HAMILTON, AMERICAN  
EMBASSY LIMA. RCASONS 1.5 (D).

2. (S) SUMMARY. AMBASSADOR AND DCM MET MONDAY EVENING,  
OCTOBER 16 WITH PRESIDENT FUJIMORI TO DISCUSS THE SUSPENSION  
OF 'THE OAS DIALOGUE AND MONTESINOS' STATUS. THE AMBASSADOR  
STRESSED THAT THE GOVERNMENT'S APPARENT FAILURE TO IMPLEMENT  
OAS AGREEMENTS HAD GENERATED INTENSE CONCERN IN WASHINGTON,

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FUJIMORI ADMITTED A "FAILURE OF  
COMMUNICATION" ON THE PART OF THE GOVERNMENT, BUT STRESSED  
THAT FURTHER CONSTITUTIONAL REFORMS WERE ESSENTIAL TO  
HOLDING THE RELCTIONS AND THAT BOTH THE GOP AND THE

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OPPOSITION WANTED TO GET BACK TO THE OAS TABLE. IMPLICITLY  
ACKNOWLEDGING THAT GOVERNMENT NEGOTIATIONS WERE PLAYING HARD  
BALL, HE SAID A CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION SOLIDIFYING THE  
1995 AMNESTY HAD TO MOVE "IN PARALLEL" WITH PROGRESS ON  
JUDICIAL REFORM ISSUES IN PARTICULAR.

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END SUMMARY.

3. (S) THE AMBASSADOR HAD SOUGHT THE MEETING WITH PRESIDENT  
FUJIMORI PRIOR TO THE SUSPENSION OF THE OAS DIALOGUE ON

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OCTOBER 13. DCM ACCOMPANIED THE AMBASSADOR TO THE MEETING, WHICH WAS HELD IN FUJIMORI'S PERSONAL OFFICE AT THE PRESIDENTIAL PALACE AND WHICH LASTED NEARLY TWO HOURS. FUJIMORI WAS ACCOMPANIED BY FOREIGN MINISTER DE TRAZEGNIES AND AGRICULTURE MINISTER JOSE CHLIMPER (NO EXPLANATION FOR LATTER'S PRESENCE). THE AMBASSADOR OPENED BY STRESSING WASHINGTON'S KEEN INTEREST IN DEVELOPMENTS IN PERU AND OUR CONCERN OVER THE SUSPENSION OF THE OAS DIALOGUE, INDICATING THAT U.S. SUPPORT DEPENDED UPON CONTINUING CONFIDENCE IN FUJIMORI'S COMMITMENT TO GOOD-FAITH IMPLEMENTATION OF HIS SEPTEMBER 16 DECISION.

4. (S) FUJIMORI STRESSED THROUGHOUT THE MEETING THAT HE REMAINS COMMITTED TO CONVENING ELECTIONS AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE AND TURNING OVER POWER TO A NEW GOVERNMENT IN JULY 2001. HE WAS EQUALLY EMPHATIC, AS HE HAS BEEN IN PREVIOUS MEETINGS, THAT HE IS DETERMINED TO DO SO IN A WAY THAT ENSURES STABILITY IN THE TRANSITION, PROTECTS HIS GOVERNMENT'S ACHIEVEMENTS, AND GETS THE NEXT GOVERNMENT OFF TO A GOOD START IN ITS RELATIONS WITH THE MILITARY.

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5. (S) FUJIMORI SAID THAT THE EXTENSION OF THE CONGRESSIONAL SESSION FOR TWO MORE WEEKS (CONTRARY TO THE ACCORD AGREED TO IN THE OAS DIALOGUE) WAS ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY TO ACHIEVE FURTHER CONSTITUTIONAL CHANGES TO ENSURE STABILITY AND PROPER CONDITIONS FOR A NEW ELECTION. THESE INCLUDED CONSTITUTIONAL (VICE SIMPLY LEGISLATIVE) PROTECTION FOR THE ARMED FORCES AGAINST FUTURE PROSECUTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS GROUNDS, RECOMPOSITION OF THE NATIONAL ELECTIONS BOARD, AND SUCH ISSUES AS MULTIPLE VERSUS UNITARY VOTING DISTRICTS. FUJIMORI NOTED THAT HE COULD ACHIEVE ELECTIONS SOONER IF HE INVOKED ARTICLE 115 OF THE CONSTITUTION, BUT THAT WOULD REQUIRE NOT ONLY HIS OWN RESIGNATION BUT THOSE OF HIS TWO VICE PRESIDENTS AS WELL. HE VIEWED THIS AS DANGEROUSLY DESTABILIZING. HE ALSO POINTED OUT THAT ARTICLE 115 WOULDN'T LEAD TO NEW CONGRESSIONAL ELECTIONS, WHICH HE BELIEVES NECESSARY.

6. (S) FUJIMORI ACKNOWLEDGED THAT A GOP FAILURE TO COMMUNICATE WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR LATORRE'S SUSPENSION OF THE DIALOGUE BUT INSISTED THAT NO BAD FAITH WAS INVOLVED. HE REPEATEDLY INSISTED THAT BOTH HIS GOVERNMENT AND THE OPPOSITION WERE READY TO RESTART THE OAS TALKS. HE NOTED THAT JUSTICE MINISTER BUSTAMANTE HAD MET WITH LATORRE

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SEVERAL HOURS EARLIER. ALTHOUGH HE DID NOT YET HAVE A READOUT, HE WAS CONFIDENT THAT TALKS WOULD BE RESUMED SOON. DE TRAZEGNIES NOTED THAT FIM'S OLIVERA HAD EXPRESSED INTEREST PRIVATELY IN MEETINGS REST ARTING TODAY, OCTOBER 17.

7. (S) IN DISCUSSION OF LATORRE AND HIS ROLE, FUJIMORI

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 BACKED LATORRE'S CONTINUING AS FACILITATOR AND SAID HIS STYLE, PERCEIVED AS PASSIVE BY THE OPPOSITION AND OTHERS, IN FACT HELPS THE PROCESS BY LETTING ALL SIDES VENT. FUJIMORI NONETHELESS BELIEVED THAT LATORRE SHOULD BE BOLSTERED BY ADDITIONAL OAS SUPPORT. HE CONCURRED WITH THE AMBASSADOR'S VIEW THAT CANADIAN OAS AMBASSADOR BOEHME WOULD BE EXCELLENT, BUT ALSO WONDERED WHETHER OAS DEPUTY SECRETARY GENERAL LUIGI EINAUDI WOULD BE POSSIBLE. HE WAS NOT KEEN ON A GAVIRIA VISIT, BELIEVING IT WOULD ONLY UNDERCUT LATORRE, BUT SEEMED TO SOFTEN AFTER CHLIMPER SUPPORTED THE AMBASSADOR'S VIEW THAT A GAVIRIA VISIT COULD HELP CALM THE OPPOSITION.

8. (S) FUJIMORI STRESSED THAT A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT GRANTING A CESSATION ("PUNTO FINAL") OF ALL PROSECUTIONS OF THE MILITARY FOR HUMAN RIGHTS ABUSES WOULD BE HANDLED IN THE SIDEBAR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE OPPOSITION AND NOT WITHIN THE OAS DIALOGUE. HE ALSO SAID THAT PROGRESS ON JUDICIAL REFORM ISSUES--WHICH ARE THE NEXT ITEMS ON THE OAS AGENDA--HAD TO

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PROCEED "IN PARALLEL" WITH THIS GLOBAL ACCORD ON MILITARY ISSUES. HE SAID THAT MOST WITHIN THE OPPOSITION (HE NAMED JORGE DEL CASTILLO OF APRA AND PERNANDO OLIVERA OF FIM) WERE AMENABLE TO SOME KIND OF CESSATION, NOTING THAT THE MAJORITY OF ABUSES HAD OCCURRED DURING HIS PREDECESSORS' GOVERNMENTS. FUJIMORI FURTHER NOTED THAT SUCH PROTECTION NEEDED TO BE EXTENDED NOT JUST TO MILITARY PERSONNEL, BUT ALSO TO EVEN LOCAL LEADERS WHO'D FOUGHT AGAINST TERRORISM ("RONDEROS" OR ARMED SUPPORT GROUPS). BOTH FUJIMORI AND DE TRAZEGNIES REPEATEDLY STRESSED THAT THE LEGAL PROTECTION WOULD NOT/NOT INCLUDE CORRUPTION OR COMMON CRIMES.

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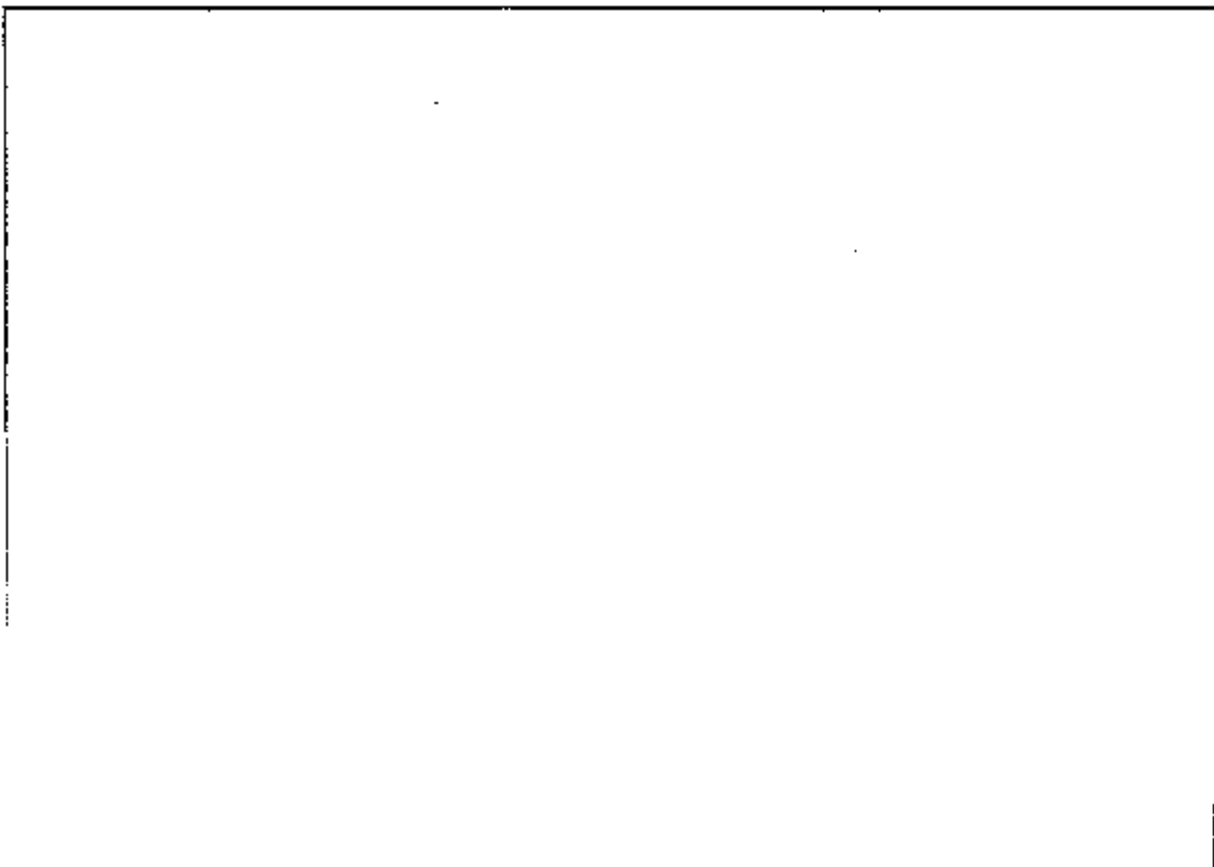
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